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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/547,680

09/02/2005

Heinrich Hanisch

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EXAMINER

EIDE, HEIDI MARIE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3732

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/29/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/547,680	Applicant(s) HANISCH ET AL.	
	Examiner HEIDI M. EIDE	Art Unit 3732	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 October 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 29-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 29-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 29, 39 and 48 are objected to because of the following informalities: In each of the claims it is believed that "the selected portion being defined by at least the dentally specific indicia" is in error for --the selected portion being defined by at least the distinct dentally specific indicia. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 29-32, 34-37, 39-42 and 44-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Baba 6,049,743.

Baba teaches a computer aided design system comprising a computer 1, a display device 7a that is directed by the computer to display an image of a dental restoration body, the dental restoration body including a plurality of distinct dentally specific indicia (deforming regions $A_{(n)}$), an input device 8a that enables the user to input a command to reference any of the plurality of distinct dentally specific indicia to select a portion of the image to be modified, the selected portion being defined by at least the plurality of dentally specific indicia and at least one design tool that enables the

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user to modify the selected portion in any of a plurality of directions (col. 4, ll. 44-50, col. 7, ll. 14-18, 23-25, col. 8, ll. 7-11, col. 9, ll. 41-56). Baba further teaches wherein the plurality of dentally specific indicia comprises a plurality of dentally specific lines (i.e. the lines defining the deforming regions) and wherein the plurality of distinct dentally specific indicia comprises a plurality of dentally specific points (i.e. each deforming comprising the center position CP, col. 9, ll. 41-56), wherein the selection is made by selecting a region between at least two of the plurality of distinct dentally specific indicia (i.e. the selected deforming region is located between different deforming regions or distinct dentally specific indicia) and wherein the image of the dental restoration body further includes a preparation border (ml). Baba further teaches wherein the selection is made by selecting a region between the preparation border and at least one of the plurality of distinct dentally specific indicia (the selected point as illustrated in fig. 11 is between the preparation border Pm(6) and other deforming regions) and wherein the plurality of distinct dentally specific indicia includes a cusp 11 (fig. 5). As to claim 39, Baba teaches the method comprising providing an image of a dental restoration body, the image of the dental restoration body including a plurality of distinct dentally specific indicia (deforming regions $A_{(n)}$), accepting an input command to reference any of the plurality of distinct dentally specific indicia to select a portion of the image to be modified, the selected portion being defined by at least the dentally specific indicia reference by the command and modifying the selected portion with a design tool, the design tool enabling the selected portion to be modified in any of a plurality of directions (col. 4, ll. 44-50, col. 7, ll. 14-18, 23-25, col. 8, ll. 7-11, col. 9, ll. 41-56).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 38 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baba 6,049,743 as applied to claim 29 above, and further in view of Diller 2002/0110786.

Baba teaches the invention as substantially claimed and as discussed above, however, does not specifically teach the computer directs the display device to display a plurality of symbols, each of the plurality of symbols representing a design tool. Diller teaches the computer directs the display device to display a plurality of symbols, each of the plurality of symbols representing a design tool (par. 114, figs. 24-25). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art in the time of the invention to modify the computer system taught by Baba with the design tool display taught by Diller in order for the user to easily modify the shape of the restoration as needed.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed October 30, 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the amendment to the claims to include the limitation of the input device being able to select any of the plurality of distinct dentally specific indicia, however, as discussed above, the user is able to select any of the

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deforming regions, which are the distinct dentally specific indicia, therefore the claimed limitation is met.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HEIDI M. EIDE whose telephone number is (571)270-3081. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cris Rodriguez can be reached on 571-272-4964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Heidi M Eide/
Examiner, Art Unit 3732

1/26/2010

/Cris L. Rodriguez/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3732